(a) whether Government is aware of deaths of several people in various parts of the country due to starvation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Central Government and the State Governments have jointly formulated any policy to prevent starvation deaths: and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As per reports received from various States/UT Governments, no incidence of starvation death has taken place in any State/Union Territory Government in the country.

(c) and (d) For tackling the problem of hunger and starvation in the country and to ensure that people living below poverty line get adequate food grains, the Government has been implementing the following schemes:

1. **Targeted Public Distribution System**: Government is allocating food grains @ 35 Kg per family per month at subsidized rates for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL), and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) ration card holder families in the country under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Depending upon availability of food grains in the Central pcol, they are also allocated for APL category of population. Presently, allocations of food grains under this category range from 10 to 35 Kg per family per month.

2. **Under Annapurna scheme** implemented by Ministry of Rural Development through State/UT Governments, indigent senior citizens of 65 years of age or above who are not getting old age pension, are provided 10 Kg of food grains per person per month free of cost.

3. **Under Emergency Feeding Programme (EFP)** implemented through the State Government of Orissa in eight KBK districts, rice at BPL price is allocated for approximately 2 lakh beneficiaries in these districts.

4. To provide safeguard against starvation during natural calamity and lean season, under the **Village Grain Bank Scheme** being implemented by the Department of Food & Public Distribution through the State & UT Governments, food grains are loaned to people in need of food grains from the Village Grain Banks. In each village where a VGB has been set up, food grains @ one quintal per VGB member for a maximum of 40 families are allocated.

Allotment of foodgrains to Gujarat

3294. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agrees to allot to Gujarat sufficient foodgrains per ration card considering 27 lakh cards as indicated by the State Government;

(b) if so, the supply of foodgrains during 2008-09, month-wise;

(c) whether this will meet the demand; and

(d) if not, how it is proposed to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Allocations of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) are not based on demands of States/UTs. Government allocates foodgrains to States & UTs under TPDS based on allocation norms. For 21.20 lakh Below Poverty Line (BPL) families including 8.128 lakh Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in Gujarat, foodgrains are allocated in full quantity at the scale of 35 kg per family per month as per allocation norms.

Allocation of foodgrains under Above Poverty Line (APL) category is made based on availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and past offtake. Presently, allocation of foodgrains under APL category to Gujarat is made @ 10 kg per APL family per month in respect of accepted number of 66.37 lakh APL families. The total month-wise TPDS allocations of foodgrains including coarsegrains for all categories of families for the State of Gujarat during 2008-09 are as under:

(In tons)

Month(s)	Allocation made per month
April, 2008-September, 2008	83215
October, 2008-February, 2009	93215
March, 2009 onwards	140574

Adulteration in foodgrains

†3295. SHRI AVTAR SINGH KARIMPURI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of individuals/companies found involved in adulteration in foodgrains during last three years;

(b) the details thereof, State-wise, district-wise and year-wise;

(c) the total number of cases filled by Government on the charge of adulteration of foodgrains;

(d) the details of their names and addresses, State-wise, district-wise and year-wise;

(e) the number of people sent to prison under these charges, so far; and

(f) the details thereof, State-wise, district-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (f) As per information received from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the implementation of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.